

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 YAOUND 01756 072136Z
ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00
NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 /060 W
-----046582 081347Z /14

R 071010Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
TO SECSTATE WAAHDC 5139
INFO USDAO NDJAMENA CHAD
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY//ECJ 7//
SECDEF WASHDC//DSAA-TS/A//
DA WASHINGTON DC
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L YAOUNDE 1756

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, CM
SUBJ: FOREIGN MILITARY ATTACHES COMMENT ON CURRENT SITUATION

1. AT HIS REQUEST MAJOR GANDARIAS THE FRENCH ASSISTANT MILITARY ATTACHE CALLED ON ME ON MARCH 28 AND I HAD A FOLLOWUP CONVERSATION WITH COL. RIAC ON MARCH 31. THE PURPOSE OF THE CALL OF THE ASSISTANT FRENCH MILITARY ATTACHE WAS TO REQUEST SOME BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON OUR MILITARY ATTACHE RESIDENT IN NDJAMENA (USDAO NDJAMENA HEREBY REQUESTED TO REPLY). HOWEVER IN THE COURSE OF THE

CONVERSATION A NUMBER OF ITEMS CONCERNING THE CAMEROON MILITARY AND THEIR RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE FRENCH WERE COVERED.

2. MAJOR GANDARIAS STATED THAT THERE ARE PRESENTLY 82 FRENCH MILITARY ADVISORS ASSIGNED TO CAMEROON AND IT WAS EXPECTED THAT THE NUMBER WOULD REACH 84 BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR. THE PERSON IN CHARGE OF THE MISSION IS COL. DEBOUYER WHO ALSO SERVES AS THE TECHNICAL ADVISOR TO THE MINISTER OF ARMED FORCES, THE COMMANDANT OF THE MILITARY ACADEMY 'EMIAO) IS NOW LT. COL.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 YAOUND 01756 072136Z

METAYER. THERE ARE 5 ADDITIONAL FRENCH MILITARY ASSIGNED AS TEACHERS AT EMIAO. THERE ARE 12 ADVISORS TO THE GENDARMERIE, 4 TO THE NAVY, 14 TO THE AIR FORCE, 6 OF WHOM ARE PILOTS. THE OTHER ADVISORS ARE SCATTERED THROUGHOUT THE MILITARY, LARGELY IN TEACHING OR ADVISORY POSITIONS, SUCH AS THE MECHANIC SCHOOLS IN DOUALA AND YAOUNDE. HE SAID THAT AT ANY GIVEN TIME BETWEEN 150-160 CAMEROON MILITARY AT ALL GRADE LEVELS WERE IN FRANCE IN

THE VARIOUS MILITARY SCHOOLS AND TRAINING SCHOOLS.

3. MAJOR GANDARIAS OBSERVED THAT THE 15 CHINESE NAVAL ADVISORS SENT WITH THE 2 SHANGHAI PATROL BOATS HAD LEFT THE COUNTRY AND THE 2 PATROL BOATS WERE NO LONGER OPERABLE.

4. MAJOR GANDARIAS SAID THAT THE CHADIAN MILITARY HAD RECENTLY RECEIVED A SHIPMENT OF 80 TONS OF MUNITIONS AND SPARE PARTS FOR VEHICLES PREVIOUSLY FURNISHED IN 1976 BY THE RUSSIANS. ACCORDING TO COL. RIAC THIS SHIPMENT WAS PICKED UP IN DOUALA BY FRENCH AIR FORCE TRANSVALLS AND DELIVERED TO NDJAMENA.

5. MAJOR GANDARIAS STATED THE CURRENT FORCE LEVELS OF THE CAMEROON MILITARY ARE 6,500 IN THE ARMY, 350 EACH IN THE AIR FORCE AND NAVY, 5,000 GENDARMERIE, AND PPP POLICE. IN ADDITION TO THE 5 BATTALIONS (HEADQUARTERED IN EBOLOWA, BAFOUSSAM, NKONGSAMBA, DOUALA, BUEA) A THIRD COMPANY OF PARACHUTISTS IS CURRENTLY BEING FORMED AT THE TRAINING SCHOOL IN KOUTABA. THE GENDARMERIE HAS RECENTLY ACTIVATED A CAMP AT NDJOLE (APPROXIMATELY 50 MILES NORTH OF YAOUNDE). GANDARIAS SAID THAT THE OFFICE OF PARTICIPATION IN DEVELOPMENT HAS BEEN TAKEN OUT OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AND SPORTS AND COL. ETOUNDE HAS BEEN RELIEVED OF HIS FUNCTIONS AS DIRECTOR GENERAL. HE DOES NOT KNOW ABOUT COL. ETOUNDE'S FUTURE ASSIGNMENT.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 YAOUND 01756 072136Z

6. MAJOR GANDARIAS SAID THAT IN ADDITION TO LT. COL. ANAGO, CURRENTLY CAMEROONIAN MILITARY ATTACHE IN WASHINGTON, THE CAMEROONS HAD AS ATTACHES, COL. BELL IN PARIS AND LT. COL. CONSTANTIN EPANYA IN BONN. HE SAID THAT HE HAD HEARD THAT THE FRG HAD OFFERED EQUIPMENT AND I WAS ABLE TO GIVE HIM DETAILS BASED ON THE USDAO BONN REPORT NUMBER 6834006478. GANDARIAS SAID THAT FOR THEIR PART THE FRENCH HAD FURNISHED MILITARY EQUIPMENT VALUED AT APPROXIMATELY 5 MILLION FRENCH FRANCS IN BOTH 71-72 AND IN 77-78. THE EQUIPMENT CONSISTED OF VEHICLES, RADIOS AND SPARE PARTS, ETC.

7. FINALLY GANDARIAS MENTIONED THAT THE GURC HAD A COUPLE YEARS AGO STARTED AN AMMUNITION FACTORY AT NGAOUNDERE. THE PLANT IS SUPPOSED TO TURN OUT 9 MILLIMETER AND 7.62 CALIBER AMUNITION AND IS BEING DEVELOPED IN COOPERATION WITH MANURHAN, A BELGIUM-FRENCH FIRM. HOWEVER, DUE TO THE TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES, THE PLANT HAS NEVER ENTERED INTO OPERATION.
MITHOEFER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ATTACHES, CONSULTANTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978YAOUND01756
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780152-0619
Format: TEL
From: YAOUNDE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780478/aaaacorl.tel
Line Count: 114
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ffd934b4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION PM
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3031839
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FOREIGN MILITARY ATTACHES COMMENT ON CURRENT SITUATION
TAGS: MASS, CM, FR, (GANDARIAS)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ffd934b4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014